

## The Synagogue Set-up (Mark 3:1-5)

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## The Synagogue Setup Mark 3:1-5

Teenagers can be so mean to each other especially at camp. I don't know why but the depths of meanness come out of a

Kid at camp. I was at Summer Basket ball camp my 8<sup>th</sup> grade Summer going into 9<sup>th</sup> and the upper class man decided to pull a prank on me. He really set me up good. Every one was cool & calm, said lines well conned me good. I'm not going to tell you what they did. I don't like to think about it I'm still traumatized to this day. But I was set up good. In our text, there is a bit of a setup going on at the churchhouse. This is set up <sup>Playing religious point</sup> to <sup>tradition is no laughing matter</sup> a little bit like life or death.

I. The Trapping Test - All of the recent run-ins with pharisees, their intent was to somehow question what he has done with the intent of pointing out sin. This instance was a pre-meditated trap.

A. The Subject - vs. 1 There was a man with a withered hand. The language indicates that the hand was not always in that condition but has since been recently been put into condition.

Whenever I read this account, I think of a boy in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, athlete yet in 6<sup>th</sup> grade hand began... Met him recently... hand in same condition. This would affect his life a <sup>little</sup> bit in a case, which the pharisees knew Jesus would understand.

B. The Stare ~~vs~~ - In the Synagogue, the Pharisees sat in front seats of honor to make sure people were not being taught wrong. Can you see the scene as Jesus came in, their burning stare at this miracle worker who defied their traditions. The language indicates that the stared and stared, looking for any place they could accuse. He kept them distance, so as not to be associated. Do we remember?

C. The Set up - Their goal was to accuse Jesus of working on the Sabbath, which the law clearly forbade the Jews to do. But the question was would Jesus violate Sabbath by healing on it. Well just as last week we saw that pharisees went well beyond the teaching of the law to say that only if a person was going to die, could the work of healing be done. EX. Leaglens <sup>This moma</sup> ~~can't~~ <sup>PAWN</sup> be ~~le~~ out of Christianity.

II. The Turning Table - As always Jesus has the situation well in hand. Notice that Jesus does not avoid the confrontation by saying let's wait. ~~As~~ One author writes

A. The Scribes - They were watching like a hawk for a secret healing, maybe Jesus might look both ways then heal. But Jesus turns the tables on them. Stands forth "Aris into the midst" let everybody see me heal you! You are being used by the pharisees for evil, changing to shake off the heat <sup>of heat w/ good</sup>.

Intro: I want you to see the folly of the folly of the Pharisees and see to what levels their religious tradition was causing them to sing and also see the love and reason of purely following the example of Christ.

- 1) if a wall fell on anyone, enough rubble was allowed to be cleared away to see whether the person was dead or alive. If he were alive he might be helped, and if he were dead the body had to stay there another day. A fracture could not be attended to, it wasn't life-threatening, and you couldn't even pour cold water on it - a sprained ankle or hand - in order to relieve it; that was work. A cut on your finger, if it was bleeding severely, might be bandaged with a plain bandage, but you weren't allowed to put any ointment on it. When you put ointment on it that was work. Therefore, at most, an injury could be kept from getting worse, that was the mentality - keep life-threatening things from getting worse, but don't make them any better.
- 2) He wanted to challenge them, He wanted to expose their legalistic traditions that were binding and destroying them.

1) one author writes... they would rather protect their religious traditions than see this poor man healed - that makes Jesus angry!

3) He was fed up of challenges that were put before him  
4) He was fed up of challenges that were put before him  
5) He was fed up of challenges that were put before him

**B. The Statement** - Jesus is unearthing their whole plot. vs4 Get a hold on what Jesus is saying; is it... The answer is always right to do right; it's always wrong to do wrong. Go on... Save or Kill... They were saying it was wrong to heal but not wrong to plot to kill. They turned the law on its head. Reflecting were hate hated

**C. The Sturring** - I would not have written till have been on the receiving end of vs5: The wordling indicates an intense centralizing gaze, that looked into the soul, anger flash in his eyes. He was angry & grieved. Angry over hypocrisy - Grieved at their hardness of heart. Have you ever felt angry & grieved over a situation?

**D. The Stretching** - Jesus commands the man to stretch forth his hand and miraculously it was healed. No doubt in the past Jesus had touched out of compassion when healing. That is what they are looking for. Jesus foils their plot more often, now the Tables and heals the man by merely the word.

**III. The Telling Twist** - Finally we see a telling twist. vs6. Can you see the anger on their faces as they down out of the Synagogue. Look when

**A. Twisted Company** - The Herodians. They were the natural enemy of the Pharisees. Herodians were not proper Jews, they supported Herod and their

continually coming in contact and  
having dealing with the Romans.  
If you will remember from our study  
of Levi the Tax collector one of the  
points of contention is that they were un-  
clean because of their dealing with  
Romans. That put Tax Collectors and Herodias  
on same level. And here they are trying to  
get take counsel from them. Leave it is all  
~~eat you up~~ cause you to have some <sup>Twisted</sup> ~~way~~  
**B. Twisted Counsel - Kill Him** / Not  
lock him up or shame him or prevent  
widow but Kill Him. The probably  
went to the herodians because it was  
Herod was the one that put John  
Baptist to death, they thought maybe  
they could be persuaded, to take the  
life of Jesus as well. The most ~~dark~~  
thing is that all this took place on the  
sabbath. The day that they so  
enshrined and sanctified as holy, was  
the day on which they ~~conspired to~~  
murder their own messiah and  
maker.

**IV Closing - The principle to**  
be learned is the principle of Law &  
grace. Of tradition and truth. People  
live their works. Lone religion that says  
your OK if you go to church, read bible, say grace  
do all externals and have no burning heart (Lk 6:46)